

B12 a hermetic door capable of opening and closing the first opening, and the door being shielded from the first hermetic chamber by the tube when the tube is inserted into the first opening.

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B13 4. (Once Amended) The treatment apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the tube has a third opening in an area opposite to the first hermetic chamber with the hermetic door being positioned between the second opening and the third opening when the tube is inserted into the first opening.

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B14 8. (Once Amended) The treatment apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein a plurality of the first hermetic chambers are linearly arranged, said plurality of the first hermetic chambers being partitioned off by openable and closeable partitions.

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B15 10. (Once Amended) The treatment apparatus as set forth in claim 9, wherein the tube has a third opening on a side opposite to the first hermetic chamber when the tube is inserted into the first opening.

11. (Once Amended) The treatment apparatus as set forth in claim 10, further comprising:

an exhaust system connected to the first hermetic chamber via the second hermetic chamber.

12. (Once Amended) The treatment apparatus as set forth in claim 11, wherein the third opening of the tube and the exhaust system are hermetically connected when the tube is inserted into the first opening of the first hermetic chamber.

13. (Once Amended) The treatment apparatus as set forth in claim 9, further comprising:

a means for performing pressure regulation in a space between the tube and the second hermetic chamber so that a pressure in the space is higher than a pressure in the first

hermetic chamber when the tube is inserted into the first opening of the first hermetic chamber.

14. (Once Amended) The treatment apparatus as set forth in claim 9, further comprising:

a means for performing pressure regulation in the first hermetic chamber so that a pressure in the first hermetic chamber is lower than a pressure in a space between the tube and the second hermetic chamber and higher than a pressure in the tube when the tube is inserted into the first opening of the first hermetic chamber.

B15 15. (Once Amended) The treatment apparatus as set forth in claim 13, wherein the means for performing regulation has a means for supplying a carrier gas to a space between the tube and the second hermetic chamber.

16. (Once Amended) The treatment apparatus as set forth in claim 11, further comprising:

a filter means placed between the second hermetic chamber and the exhaust system.

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18. (Once Amended) The treatment apparatus as set forth in claim 9,

B16 wherein the tube is removable, and the second hermetic chamber has hermetically openable and closeable door for replacing the tube with a second tube.

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33. (Once Amended) A treatment apparatus, comprising:

a hermetic zone within a hermetic chamber for housing an object to be treated;  
an exhaust system connected to the hermetic chamber for exhausting the hermetic

B17 zone;

a means for heating the interior of the hermetic zone;

a reforming means, placed between the hermetic zone and the exhaust system, for reforming a gaseous emission produced by heating the object to be treated; and